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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#16/8 (410)  
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In re the Application of: AMANO, Masaharu et al.

Group Art Unit: 3671

Serial No.: 09/725,314

Examiner: Nathan S. MAMMEN

Filed: November 29, 2000

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 8583

For: A BUCKET TOOTH AND PRODUCING METHOD OF SAME

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116  
- EXPEDITED RESPONSE -  
GROUP ART UNIT 3671

**RECEIVED**  
DEC 03 2002  
**GROUP 3600**

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Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

November 27, 2002

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated **September 3, 2002**, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 have been amended as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) In an assembly having a bucket tooth attached to a bucket lip via a fastening bolt, said bucket tooth comprising axial force fluctuation absorbing means for absorbing